

Message Text

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42

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 USIA-15 /028 W
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P 151739Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4704

UNCLAS BAMA KO 3280

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXCAK ML

SUBJ: TRANSITIONAL QUARTER IV PROGRAM

REF: STAE 211529

1. EXPERIENCING SOME DIFFICULTY IN GETTI NIOUR TWO
PRINCIPAL NOMINEES KOKE DEMBELE AND ZANA DAO IN TRAVEL
STATUS BEFORE OCTOBER 1. WHILE MFA HAS NOT YET OFFICIALLY
INFORMED EMBASSY OF ITS CONCURREFCEHVO THEIR GRANTS, BOTH
HAVE UNOFFICIALLY INFORMED US THEY HAVE RECEIVED INTERNAL
CLEARANCES. OBSTACLE IS MALIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELE-
BRATIONS SEPTEMBER 22 WHICH MAY BE ONE OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT GOM EVENTS IN RECENT YEARS. NEITHER CANDIDATE
ABLE TO TRAVEL BEFORE OR LIKELY WITHIN THE WEEK AFTER
THAT DATE. GOVERNOR DEMBELE HOPES TO LEAVE
BEFORE OCTOBER 1 BUT WILL NOT BE ABLE TELL UNTIL AFTER
SEPT. 22. DAO HAS SEPARATE PROBLEM IN THAT HIS MINISTER
IS TRAVDTING TO NEAR EAST AFTER SEPT. 22, LEAVING DAO
IN CHARGE. BELIEVES PI UCLIKELY HE CAN ACCEPT UNTIL
MID OCTOBER.

2. SIDI COULIBALY, ALTERNATE TO DAO AND ALSO HIS DE
FACTO DEPUTY IN MIN PLANNING, HAS SEPARATELY WRITTEN
TO UNIV. OF MICHIGAN'S CHARLES STEEDMAN ASKING FOR
SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY ENGLISH THERE BEGINNING EARLY
1977. COULIBALY STATES THAT THE GOM HAS DECIDED TO
PROPOSE HIM AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE WEST AFRI-
CAN RICE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, A BILINGUAL POST.
(APPARENTLY IBRAHIM DICKO, FY 76 IVP WHO WAS AT
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UNIV. OF MICH, SUGGESTED THIS CONTACT TO COULIBALY.

FOR THIS REASON
EMBASSY HAS NOT PROPOSED COULIBALY TO
GOM AS IVP FOR THIS FY/TQ, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD
CONSIDER HIM FOR PARTIAL IVP NEXT FY IF/WHEN HE WORKS

SOMETHING OUT WITH MICHIGAN.

3. WORSE CASE LEAVES MALI WITH NO VIABLE NOMINEE
WHO CAN TRAVEL BEFORE SEPTEMBER END. THIS IS SITUA-
TION WE OBVIOUSLY WANT AVOID, PARTICULARLY SINCE BOTH
DEMBEL AND DAO EXCELLENT CANDIDATES. POST
ACTIVELY CONSIDERING OTHER ALTERNATES BUT ALL THE REST
HAVE SAME PROBLEM AND PREOCCUPATION WITH SEPTEMBER 22
EVENTS. THEREFORE, IF THERE IS ANY ADMINISTRATIVE
LEEWAY OR WAIVER ON REGULATION THAT TQ NOMINEES MUST
CROSS AN INTERNATIONAL BORDER BEFORE QUARTER'S END, PLEASE
ADVISE SOONEST.

IF NEGATIVE, BAMAKO LIKELY LOSE GRANTS TO TWO KEY
INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY BE ABLE TO TRAVEL SHORTLY AFTER
SEPTEMBER 30 DEADLINE.
DAWKINS

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